

Message Text

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ACTION IO-11

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7176

INFO AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L AMMAN 1208

FOR IO/MLA

E.O. 11652 GDS

TAGS: PFOR UN JO

SUBJECT: MULTILATERALAFFAIRS- PEURTO RICO AND AL AQSA

MOSCUE ISSUES

REF.: (A) STATE 49330 (B) 42329

1. AMBASSADOR RAISED PUERTO RICO ITEM IN GENERAL WAY DURING COURSE OF DISCUSSION WITH MINISTER OF STATE FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS HASSAN IBRAHIM ON OVERALL TOPIC OF MULTILATERAL DIPLOMACY AND US APPROACH TO IT IN 1976. IBRAHIM WELCOMED DIALOGUE ON MULTILATERAL ISSUES ON WHICH GOJ WANTS TO BE COOPERATIVE WITHIN BOUNDS OF ITS PRIME INTERESTS IN MIDDLE EAST HE AGAIN CALLED OUR ATTENTION TO NEED FOR MAKING OUR POSITION TO HIS MINISTRY (AND WHERE APPROPRIATE JORDANAS UNMISSION) EARLY ENOUGH FOR THEM TO FULLY EXPLORE WAYS THEY MIGHT BE HELPFUL TO US WITHOUT JEOPARDIZING THEIR OTHER INTERESTS HASSAN RECOGNIZED THAT PRECISE ISSUES IN THE FORM OF A PARTICULARLY WORDED RESOLUTION MIGHT NOT EMERGE
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UNTIL ELEVENTH HOUR REQUIRING LAST MINUTE DEMARCHES

BUT HE HOPED WE COULD PROVIDE HIM WITH EARLIER
BACKGROUND ON ISSUES AND THE VARIOUS WAYS THEY
WOULD LIKELY DEVELOP. WE PROMISE TO TRY WITH
IO/MLA'S HELP.

2. ON PUERTO RICO ITEM IBRAHIM SAID HE WOULD
CONTINUE TO KEEP AN EYE ON IT WITH REFERENCE TO
FORTHCOMING NAC AND ELSEWHERE AND WELCOMED OUR OFFER
TO KEEP HIM AND HIS STAFF BRIEFED ON ISSUES AS IT DEVELOPES.
HE THOUGHT IT WOULD BE A GOOD IDEA IF GOVERNMENT
OF PUERTO RICO INVITED JORDAN'S UN PERMREP SHARAF
DOWN FOR A VISIT. AMBASSADOR STRONGLY ENDORSES
THIS. SHARAF IS PERCEPTIVE AND INFLUENTIAL IN
JORDAN NAD HAS A GOOD FUTURE BACK HERE.

3. WORTH MENTIONING ALSO THAT AS INDICATION OF
GOJ'S WISH TO TREAT MULTILATERAL DIPLOMATIC
ISSUES IN A WORKABLE RATHER THAN RHETORICAL WAY,
IBRAHIM SAID THAT GOJ OPPOSES PLO ATTEMPT TO RAISE
AL AQSA MOSQUE ISSUE IN SECURITY COUNCIL NOW.
GOJ'S POSITION HE SAID IS THAT ARABS HAVE WON A
NUMBER OF UN RESOLUTION ON THE JERUSALEM QUESTION
AND IT NOT GOOD TACTICS AT THIS STAGE TO RAISE
THE NARROWER ISSUE OF PARRYING IN THE MOSQUE ON WHICH
THEY MIGHT NOT GET AS WIDE SUPPORT AMONG NON MOSLEM
STATES AND WHICH THEN MIGHT ULTIMATELY DETRACT FROM
PREVIOUSLY AGREED RESOLUTIONS. GOJ HOWEVER HARDLY
IN POSITION TO STRONGLY OPPOSE MATTER IF PLO WITH
STRONG SUPPORT OF OTHER ARAB AND ISLAMICS PUSHES
FOR IT ESPECIALLY WITH SUPPORT OF MOSLEM STATES
MORE DISTANT GEOGRAPHICALLY FROM THE CONSIDERATIONS
OF POLITICAL TACTICS FACES BY MIDDLE EAST
CONFRONTATION STATES.

4. EMBASSY BELIEVES PUERTO RICO ISSUE WILL BE GOOD
TEST OF IO/MLA'S ABILITY TO PROVIDE US WITH
INFORMATION IN ADDITION TO REFTELS WHICH WILL BE
TIMELY AND RELEVANT TO JORDAN'S PERSPECTIVE ON THE
ISSUE IN WAYS THAT WE HAVE SUGGESTED BEFORE
(AMMAN 0710, PARAS 4, 5)
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